

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Otto Carlowitz

Confirmation No. 5548

Serial No. 10/596,351

Group Art Unit 1793

Filed June 9, 2006

Examiner Nguyen, Ngoc Yen

For METHOD FOR THE TREATMENT OF EXHAUST GASES CONTAINING
ORGANOSILICON COMPONENTS OR ACCOMPANYING
SUBSTANCES, AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 1, 2009, the applicant elects the Group 1 invention including claims 1-12 and 15-16.

The election is made with traverse. In the office action, the Examiner identifies that the present invention relates to a method and system for the thermal purification of exhaust gas which contains organosilicon compounds. The method and system are characterized in having a heat storage material bed that is removable and which may be regenerated. The prior art, such as U.S. Patent 4,940,567 which was supplied by IDS, describes an apparatus for catalytically reducing flue gas where the flue gas relates to noxious substances, but it does not describe reducing organosilicon containing exhaust gas. (For reference, a copy of the European Patent 1 691 913 which corresponds to the pending application is attached hereto). In view of the common features of the two groups of inventions identified in the office action and the clear difference between the prior art, the lack of unity (restriction requirement) should be withdrawn.

Please proceed to examination on the merits.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael E. Whitham', is written over the typed name.

Michael E. Whitham
Reg. No. 32,635

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